

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

1. (Currently Amended) A runnable splice comprising:
  - a first thermal imprintable label stock having a first face layer of thermal sensitive paper removably adhered to a first silicone liner by a first adhesive, the first thermal label stock having a first end disposed transverse to a length of the first thermal label stock;
  - a second thermal imprintable label stock having a second face layer of thermal sensitive paper removably adhered to a second silicone liner by a second adhesive, the second thermal label stock having a second end disposed transverse to a length of the second thermal label stock, the first and second ends being disposed in a parallel spaced apart relationship to form a splice gap therebetween;
  - a third thermal imprintable label disposed over said splice gap and adhered to both the first and second face layers for enabling thermal printing over said splice gap; and
  - a splice tape disposed over said splice gap and adhered to both the first and second silicone liners without a release coating, the adhesive of said splice tape to the silicone liner enabling removal of the ~~lines-liners~~ from the face layers without ~~revariation~~ separation of the lines-liners from one another, said splice tape having a width greater than said third imprintable label in order to insure bonding between the third imprintable label and the first and second layers.

2. (Original) The runnable splice according to claim 1 wherein said splice gap has a width of between about 0 inches and about 0.125 inches and said third thermal label has a width of between about 0.5 inches and about 3 inches.

3. (Original) The runnable splice according to claim 2 wherein said splice gap is disposed at an angle of between about 0° degrees and about 40 degrees transverse to a longitudinal axis of the first and second thermal label stock.

4. (Previously Presented) The runnable splice according to claim 3 wherein the first face layer and second face layer are adhered to the first and second silicone liners respectively with a pressure sensitive adhesive.

5. (Currently Amended) The runnable splice according to claim 4 where the silicone liner and splice tape are thermal imprintable.

6. (Original) The runnable splice according to claim 4 wherein said splice tape has a width equal or greater than the third external label width.

7. (Currently Amended) A runnable splice comprising:  
a first thermal imprintable label stock having a first face layer of thermal sensitive paper, a first liner and a pressure sensitive adhesive disposed therebetween, the first thermal label stock having a first end disposed transverse to a length of the first thermal label stock;

a second thermal imprintable label stock having a second face layer of thermal sensitive paper, a second liner and a pressure sensitive adhesive disposed therebetween, the second thermal label stock having a second end disposed transverse to a length of the second thermal label stock, the first and second ends being disposed in a parallel spaced apart relationship to form a splice gap therebetween;

a third thermal imprintable label disposed over said splice gap and adhered to both the first and second face layers for enabling thermal printing over said splice gap; and

a splice tape disposed over said splice gap and adhered to both the first and second liners without a release coating, the adherence of said splice tape to the silicone liner enabling removal of the liners from the face layer without separating of the liners from one another, said splice tape having a width greater than said third imprintable label in order to insure bonding between the third imprintable label and the first and second layers.

8. (Original) The runnable splice according to claim 7 wherein said splice gap has a width of between about 0 inches and about 0.125 inches and said third thermal label has a width of between about 0.5 inches and about 3 inches.

9. (Original) The runnable splice according to claim 8 wherein said splice gap is disposed at an angle of between about 10 degrees and about 40 degrees transverse to a longitudinal axis of the first and second thermal label stock.

10. (Previously Presented) The runnable splice according to claim 9 where the silicone liner and splice tape are thermal imprintable.

11. (Original) The runnable splice according to claim 9 wherein said splice tape has a width equal or greater than the third external label width.